

\_\_\_\_ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_

INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
(Primary Sponsor)

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF WAYS TO INCREASE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES OF ALL TYPES ON STATE LANDS.

WHEREAS, the lands of Montana are an irreplaceable and perpetual heritage for the people of Montana and their descendants; and

WHEREAS, Montana citizens increasingly seek to enjoy the natural beauty of our state by recreating on state lands; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 11, of the Montana Constitution requires state lands to be held in trust for the people of Montana and not to be diminished in general value or area; and

WHEREAS, federally controlled lands in Montana are increasingly restricted to various popular forms of recreation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to examine recreational opportunities on state lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study consider:

(1) the current interests of stakeholders in the use of state lands, including leases and recreational opportunities, in order to prevent new recreation opportunities from infringing upon the current stakeholders' enjoyment of their legitimate interests in regards to state lands;

(2) the mandate to use state lands to support public education that is enshrined in Article X of the Montana Constitution in balancing interests on state lands;

(3) the promotion of opportunities to maintain, enhance, and expand recreation opportunities of all kinds, including nonmotorized, motorized, and mechanized methods; and

(4) proposing legislative and administrative methods to increase recreation opportunities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,

1 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 61st Legislature.

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